



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0567

FRIDAY
MARCH 03, 2000
VOL. 47 NO. 27

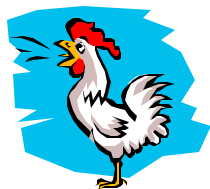
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices were trending unchanged in the West, unchanged to higher elsewhere. Trade sentiment was steady to firm in the East, generally steady in all other areas. Retail demand was moderate at best, mostly slow to fair. Food service was better with promotions and weekend festivals aiding interest. Supplies were adequate to tight for heavier weights, but smaller sizes were adequate to fully sufficient. In the parts structure, breast items were in good balance to tight for bone-in, wings were adequate to at times less available, and dark items were at least sufficient. Trading was best for white meat items, light to fair for the remainder. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

Preliminary report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 03/06-03/11/00 (cents per lb)

US GRADE A		COMPOSITE		
(Including branded product)			WTD	
AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	AVG	LOADS
Bos/New Eng	TFEWR	—		
Chicago	42.00-45.00	42.00-59.75	44.91	23
Cincinnati	TFEWR	—		
Cleveland	TFEWR	—		
Denver	61.50	—		
Detroit	TFEWR	—		
Los Angeles	62.00	—		
New York	46.00-48.00	—		
Philadelphia	TFEWR	—		
Pittsburgh	TFEWR	—		
St. Louis	TFEWR	—		
San Francisco	62.50	—		
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	54.00-57.00	40.00-57.50	55.53	77

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 57.25 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	FRIDAY PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
580	52.50-59.50	57.12
Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:		
ITEM	WTD. AVG.	VOLUME
	(CENTS PER POUND)	(000 POUNDS)
BREASTS - B/S	140.00	3,900
BREASTS - WHOLE	69.00	1,740
THIGH MEAT - B/S	75.00	596
LEG QUARTERS	19.50	7,675
WINGS	50.50	2,656

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady. Demand was fair to fairly good, best where features were present. Supplies were in balance to short for present needs. In the parts structure, breast items were well balanced to tight for bone-in with good demand, wings were in better balance with increased interest, and dark meat items were more than adequate with light trading. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mostly desirable.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices were unchanged from last week. Whole birds trading for next weeks' deliveries were at mainly unchanged to slightly higher prices. Offerings adequate overall with heavy weights in better position. Retail demand for whole body moderate and parts fairly good, best to cover features and ads. Dealers anticipated satisfactory weekend clearances. Trading reported on parts for next weeks' delivery into California - leg quarters bulk 20-22 and 4/10s mainly 23, breasts bone-in 70-75 and boneless mainly 140.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices for next week's trading were generally higher into Chicago, TFEWR elsewhere from last Monday's final. Whole fryer trade sentiment was steady. Offerings of additional product adequate for trade needs. Movement retail channels slow to fair at best. Food service demand irregular. Light to fairly good best for promotions and weekend festivals. Floor stocks balanced, inventories building. Sizes in desirable range. Parts trading moderate, best for white meat items. Supplies limited on whole breasts and wings, at least adequate on balance. Trade sentiment steady to firm on white meat items, steady on balance.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers continued about moderate as the week ended. Offerings of larger birds were generally short and the lighter birds were at least sufficient for current trade requirements. Movement into retail and distributive outlets was fair. The market tone was fully steady to firm on heavier weights and about steady on the smaller sizes. In the parts market, bone-in breasts were short to adequate and all other items were mostly adequate.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds entering the weekend continued to keep seller offerings of 3 pound and heavier sizes in good balance to short. Smaller sizes were fully adequate for a fair inquiry. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mostly desirable. Processing schedules were heavy when combined with operations planned for Saturday. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 48 to 60 cents. Trade sentiment was steady to firm. In the parts complex, inquiry continued to center on tight supplies of bone-in breasts. Boneless skinless breasts were in good balance. Leg cuts were ample. Wings were adequate.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA.

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A

RANGE	44-60
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	51.74
NO. OF BOXES	7,005
CUMULATIVE	02/28/00-03/03/00 49.89
	03/01/99-03/05/99 57.43
NO. OF BOXES	02/28/00-03/03/00 41,954
	03/01/99-03/05/99 34,646

*6 of 8 plants reporting.

MAR 02, 2000

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

MAR 03, 2000

ITEM	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD AVG	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD AVG	WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE			(000)	RANGE			(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	546	125.00-180.00	130-135	131.28	614	128.00-180.00	130-135	132.99	3,202	132.15
TENDERLOINS	101	110.00-162.50	120-125	127.89	109	120.00-162.50	120-125	128.78	712	134.58
BREAST - LINE RUN	114	64.00-69.00	64-66	64.35	186	64.00-69.00	64-66	66.15	786	65.63
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				85	59.00-61.00	59-60	60.06	405	58.70
LEGS	84	27.50-34.00	28-29	27.81	91	27.00-34.00	27-28	27.31	423	28.30
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	501	16.00-19.00	16-17	16.37	541	15.00-19.00	15-16	15.56	2,425	16.32
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,218	16.50-22.00	19-20	19.52	1,229	16.50-22.00	19-20	19.35	5,981	19.77
WINGS (WHOLE)	134	47.00-54.50	47-48	48.51	94	47.00-54.50	47-48	49.15	550	48.20
WINGS (CUT)	388	55.00-68.00	55-57	56.73	350	54.00-72.00	54-57	55.83	2,111	56.25
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				32	33.50
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				4	20.00
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				79	62.77

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR MAR 02, 2000 F.O.B. DOCK.

TODAY'S**RANGE****AVERAGE**

35.00 - 39.50

35.85

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR MAR 03, 2000 F.O.B. DOCK.

TODAY'S**RANGE****AVERAGE**

37.00 - 40.00

37.81

5-DAY**AVERAGE**

37.32

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Trucklot buying activity continued mostly quiet today as hopes for increased business for first of the month dissipated. Offerings were generally adequate on all items except bone-in breasts were sometimes tight. Movement into retail and distributive channels was about fair. The market tone was mostly steady with breast items in the strongest positions.

PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES.

MAR 02, 2000	CURRENT NEG		WTD	VOL/LBS		CURRENT NEG	WTD	VOL/LBS	MAR 03, 2000
	TRADING*	AVG**				TRADING*	AVG**		WEEKLY
BREAST - B/S	135	139.49	322,000			135	139.99	422,720	136.29
TENDERLOINS	115-120	124.47	53,420			115-120	121.29	96,920	120.28
BREAST - WITH RIBS	64-65	70.21	173,960			64-65	72.54	173,440	69.92
BREAST - LINE RUN	64	69.09	159,600			64	69.33	140,000	67.46
LEGS	26-27	32.05	109,240			26-27	28.73	186,480	30.74
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	16-17	18.46	450,541			16-17	18.59	446,791	18.42
DRUMSTICKS	36-37	35.04	88,040			36-37	32.75	99,120	33.98
THIGHS	21-22	26.94	80,480			21-22	27.49	95,646	26.85
B/S THIGHS	70-71	71.10	38,640			70-71	72.04	44,920	71.86
WINGS (WHOLE)	41-42	49.12	217,200			41-42	51.07	218,760	50.27
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.10	38,600			10-12	12.06	52,200	12.06
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	33.87	32,400			30-35	34.61	39,064	33.95
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	59.87	44,400			55-60	59.25	57,880	59.51

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). * TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		ACTUAL WTS	
	03/03	03/02	03/01	02/29	03/01	02/29	02/25	02/23
ALA	3,756	3,885	3,890	3,838	5.05	5.09	4,091	5.10
ARK	4,991	5,196	4,939	4,945	4.90	5.00	4,953	4.90
DELMARVA	2,711	2,396	2,375	2,346	5.09	5.14	2,395	5.13
KY-LA-TN	2,004	2,015	2,069	2,051	4.39	4.36	1,886	4.47
MISS	2,689	2,726	2,569	2,912	4.99	5.14	2,599	5.15
NC	2,925	2,574	2,558	2,563	5.72	6.01	2,551	5.58
TEXAS	2,229	2,225	2,216	2,215	4.78	4.84	2,206	4.68
TOTAL	21,305	21,017	20,616	20,870	4.99	5.06	20,681	5.02

MON-FRI104,959(A)

101,412(A)

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 03-Mar and 04-Mar-00 is estimated to be 31,875,000 up 2.71 percent from a week ago and down 1.9 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,034,000; last year 32,485,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week ending 04-Mar-00 is estimated to be 155,104,000 head up 1.9 percent from a week ago, and up 3.7 percent from a year ago (Last week 152,233,000 Last year 149,611,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RETAILERS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	76-80
ROASTERS 4# & UP	77-90
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	79
DUCKS	125
RABBITS-WHOLE	299
RABBITS-CUT UP	309

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY**DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	104-108
DRY PACK	92-96
ICE PACK	104-107
ROASTERS 4# & UP	112
DRY PACK	95
HENS OVER 5#	91
ICE PACK	149-166
DUCKS	

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live weight, week ending Feb. 19, 2000 (Preliminary),

(A) Fast food/ (B) Retail (C) Deboning
Food service
4.20 Lbs & down 4.21-5.25 Lbs 5.26 Lbs & Up

	-----THOUSANDS-----		
Head	40,609	27,780	37,913
Avg Weight	3.82	4.83	6.16
% of total /1	38%	26%	36%
COMPARISONS			
Last week	40,315	28,901	39,719
Avg Weight	3.82	4.78	6.19
% of total /1	37%	27%	36%
Same week, yr ago /2	36,776	29,819	39,060
Avg Weight	3.79	4.83	6.17
% of total /1	35%	28%	37%
To date/2000	237,680	206,725	284,220
To date/1999	237,568	220,891	298,296

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding.

/2 Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

WEEK ENDING 26-Feb-2000 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
	-----THOUSANDS-----				
HEAD	152,233(A)	1,915	1,349	3,264	394
AVG WT	4.97	3.42	7.99	5.31	6.68
LAST WEEK	155,193	1,986	1,335	3,321	429
YR AGO	149,527	2,040	1,356	3,396	464
AVG WT	5.03	3.48	8.24	5.38	6.67
TO-DATE/2000	1,228,518	16,144	10,650	26,794	3,727
TO-DATE/1999	1,204,013	17,595	10,585	28,180	3,800

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 152.7 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 154.1 million head or 1.4 million head more than or 101 percent of estimated fryers available.

EAST PETERSBURG POULTRY - DATE OF AUCTION: FEB 29, 2000

	RANGE		RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	.50 - .58	Silkie	3.00 - 3.60ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	.50 - .62	Geese 9-14	.22 - .34
Red Fowl 4-4.5	.50 - .72	Pigeons	2.35 - 3.00ea.
Red Fowl 5-6	.70 - 1.04	White Pigeons	2.60 - 3.00ea.
Crossbred Fowl 5-9	.60 - 1.02	Rabbits 4-6	1.00 - 1.26
Crossbred Roosters 4-6	.60 - 1.10	Rabbits 7-11	.90 - 1.22
Crossbred Roosters 7-11	.60 - 1.08	Bunnies	2.00 - 5.00ea.
Guinea Fowl	1.75 - 2.25	Guinea Pigs	2.00 - 7.00ea.
Banty Roosters	2.50 - 5.50ea.	Kid Goats	10.00 - 32.00ea.
Banty Hens	2.00 - 3.50ea.	Doves	4.00 - 6.50ea.
Leghorn Hens	.20 - .36	Pullets 4-6	.60 - .82

Total Coops Sold 788

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FED-STATE FOR WEEK OF 28-Feb-00
DUCKLINGS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND	137	143
MOSTLY		
MIDWEST	121-125	122-126
MOSTLY	121-123	122-124

ROASTERS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	51-56	54-56
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	69-83	71-75

SQUABS: NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

12 OZ.	60.48-69.66
14 OZ.	66.96-76.14
16 OZ.	73.44-83.43

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA,RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS Prices were unchanged. The trade sentiment was steady. Demand was fair to at times fairly good. Sizes were mostly desirable. Schedules were full-time. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18 oz boneless breast at \$4.65-5.25, legs at \$2.80-2.95, bone in leg at \$1.15-1.70, gizzards at \$1.30-1.40, wings at \$0.40-0.60, and leg quarters at \$1.08-1.15.

PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 28-FEB-2000

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	117-119	118
MOSTLY		

ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
JANUARY	22 149.7	150.6	99	5.20
	29 146.1	151.7	96	4.89
FEBRUARY	5 162.7	152.4	107	5.16
	12 157.9	152.1	104	4.87
	19 157.1	152.5	103	5.10
	26 154.1	152.7	101	4.97
YEAR TO DATE	1243.5	1204.8	103	
MARCH	4	153.3		
	11	153.8		

CALIFORNIA PLTRY SLTR UNDER FED. INSP W/E 26-Feb-00 IN THOUSANDS

Broilers 3,378 HD, 15,910 lbs., Light Hens 150 HD, 552 lbs., Heavy Hens 0 HD, 0 lbs.

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

	-----THOUSANDS-----				
W/E	03/04/00	02/26/00	% CHG	03/06/99	% CHG
Broilers	155,104	*152,233	+02	*149,611	+04
Cattle	682	676	+01	*672	+01
Hogs	1,921	1,909	+01	*1,958	-02
Under Federal Inspection					
* ACTUAL					

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL Prices were irregular but generally a steady tone was noted on light canners and a barely steady to steady tone on heavies. Demand was fair to good for short to fully adequate offerings of heavy canners. Interest was normal for usually adequate offerings of light canner fowl.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS	HEAVY CANNER HENS
(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	(WITHOUT NECKS)
26-27.75 MAJORITY	33.5-38 MAJORITY 37-38
CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED	
LIGHT CANNER HENS	HEAVY CANNER HENS
(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	(WITHOUT NECKS)
26-28.5 MAJORITY	34-41 MAJORITY 39-40.25

EASTERN LIGHT Prices were unchanged. Demand was fair for the fully adequate to ample offerings. Processing schedules were reported as normal to heavy. The undertone was steady.

SOUTHEAST HEAVY HENS Sales were too few to report prices. Schedules were normal. Demand was light to good. Offerings were adequate to fully adequate for full trade needs. The undertone was steady with caution noted.

LIVE HENS

Cents per pound, generally for slaughter the following week.

<u>HEAVY</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR (1)	
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR (2)	
f.o.b. plant	TFEWR	
South Central Heavy	TFEWR (1)	
<u>LIGHT</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>
Eastern Light	0 (1)	
Eastern Light	0 (2)	
So. Central Light	TFEWR (2)	
No. Central Light	TFEWR (1)	
No. Central Light	0-.5 (2)	0
(1) Buyer Loading	(2) Producer Loading	

(TFEWR) TOO FEW TO REPORT

WEST COAST LIGHT Plants worked desired schedules. Offerings generally adequate.

NORTH CENTRAL LIVE LIGHT HEN Prices continued unchanged. Offerings of spent fowl were fully adequate to ample for current production needs with a good number of excess birds going into rendering facilities. Trade sentiment steady.

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